General Assembly

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Seventieth session
Agenda item 132

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 April 2016

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/70/649/Add.1)*]

70/255. Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 59/272 of 23 December 2004 and 60/254 of 8 May 2006, section I of its resolution 60/260 of 8 May 2006 and its resolutions 60/283 of 7 July 2006, 61/245 of 22 December 2006, 63/276 of 7 April 2009, 64/259 of 29 March 2010, 66/257 of 9 April 2012, 67/253 of 12 April 2013, 68/264 of 9 April 2014 and 69/272 of 2 April 2015,

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening accountability in the United Nations Secretariat and the accountability of the Secretary-General for the performance of the Secretariat to all Member States,

Emphasizing that accountability is a central pillar of effective and efficient management that requires attention and strong commitment at all levels of the Secretariat, especially at the highest level,

Recognizing and reaffirming the important role of the oversight bodies in the development of an accountability system that is relevant to the United Nations,

Having considered the fifth progress report of the Secretary-General on the accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the fifth progress report of the Secretary-General on the accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

[1] A/70/668.
[2] A/70/770.

Please recycle

Monitoring and oversight mechanisms

3. *Stresses* the indispensable roles of external and internal oversight mechanisms, carried out through regular audit reviews and the issuance of pertinent recommendations, and that the full and timely implementation of the recommendations of oversight bodies, which are aimed at strengthening the performance of managers in monitoring the activities for which they are held accountable, is an essential part of any effective system of accountability;

Anti-fraud framework

4. *Reaffirms* that the zero-tolerance approach to fraudulent acts and corruption, to be included in the anti-fraud framework, is indispensable for the strengthening of accountability at all levels, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its timely implementation and to provide an update in the context of the sixth progress report on the accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and stresses that a single agreed definition, across the United Nations system, of what constitutes fraud and suspected or presumptive fraud, is essential in order to develop effective counter-fraud policies to ensure compatibility and comparability of related data across entities and to improve overall transparency;

Policy against retaliation

6. *Notes with concern* the delay in the revision of the policy against retaliation following the external expert review in 2014, urges the Secretary-General to finalize, without further delay, the revision of the policy against retaliation, which should be separate and distinct from mechanisms for handling staff grievances and interpersonal disputes and provide protection for whistle-blowers, and requests the Secretary-General to present the outcome in the sixth progress report;

Implementation of resolutions of the General Assembly

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include information on the status of the implementation of relevant General Assembly resolutions on administrative and budgetary matters, in the context of the individual reports on matters that are addressed in the corresponding agenda items, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that comprehensive information on the implementation of such resolutions is contained in the biennial programme performance report;

8. *Takes note* of paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Results-based management

9. *Reaffirms* that results-based management and performance reporting are essential pillars of a comprehensive accountability framework;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of results-based management and the need to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat for programme monitoring and reporting, and requests an update on measures taken in the context of the sixth progress report;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to accelerate the implementation of the results-based management framework throughout the Secretariat in a phased manner, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 6 of its resolution 67/253;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include in the sixth progress report a detailed plan, with a fixed time frame and clear milestones, for the implementation of results-based management as part of the regular functioning of the Organization;

Enterprise risk management

13. *Welcomes* the progress made in establishing risk management framework tools with a view to improving institutional and personal accountability in the United Nations, and stresses the importance of ensuring that the culture of accountability is embedded, mainstreamed and continuously promoted throughout the Organization at all levels;

14. *Notes* that the phased implementation of the enterprise risk management system is ongoing in the peacekeeping missions, and requests the Secretary-General to make full use of the lessons learned throughout the field missions and to provide the General Assembly with updates in the context of the sixth progress report;

Evaluating outcomes

15. *Emphasizes* that a strong evaluation function continues to be a critical tool in assessing the performance of the Organization, through which accountability can be enhanced and lessons can be learned in order to achieve stronger results;

16. *Also emphasizes* that the evaluation function, in particular self-evaluation, is an essential managerial tool and that senior managers have a responsibility to use evaluation to improve performance;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take further, concrete measures to develop capacity for evaluation within the Secretariat programmes, with support provided by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat and external oversight bodies in terms of guidance and methodological advice;

18. *Recalls* that, in its resolution 70/247 of 23 December 2015, it approved specified resources, for the biennium 2016–2017, for monitoring and evaluation activities, covering mandatory self-assessments and discretionary self-evaluations;

Operationalizing and enforcing a credible personal and institutional accountability framework

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a clear, transparent and precise set of guidelines and parameters, aimed at defining areas of responsibility, in particular for senior managers, as well as non-compliance in respect of those areas of responsibility;

20. *Notes with appreciation* the continued inclusion in the senior managers' compacts of a managerial indicator related to the issuance of documentation to intergovernmental bodies and General Assembly committees, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that it continues to be included in future compacts;

21. *Reiterates* that compacts and end-of-year assessments are unique accountability tools for senior managers and contribute to transparency in the Organization;

22. *Reiterates its requests* to the Secretary-General to take further concrete measures to ensure that the compacts system becomes a meaningful and powerful instrument of accountability, to take actions to address systemic issues that prevent managers from meeting their targets, in particular those related to compliance with

the recruitment timeline, and to report to the General Assembly on the progress achieved in this regard in the context of the sixth progress report;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take a more strategic approach and concrete actions to implement the accountability framework and to include in the progress reports comprehensive and tangible assessments of actions, activities and progress made by the Secretariat;

24. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to submit for its consideration an annual report on progress made towards the implementation of the accountability framework;

25. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed seventy-first session on the implementation of the accountability framework, and decides to revert to the question of the frequency of future progress reports on accountability in the context of that report;

Strengthening accountability in field missions

26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to strengthen accountability in all sectors of field missions and to ensure the full implementation of the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding any kind of sexual exploitation and abuse, and looks forward to its consideration of the matter in the context of the next report on cross-cutting issues related to peacekeeping operations;

27. *Recognizes* the responsibility of troop-contributing countries to investigate allegations of misconduct involving members of military contingents, and also recognizes the responsibility of troop- and police-contributing countries to hold accountable those against whom allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse have been substantiated, in accordance with their national legislation.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 April 2016

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/70/800)]

70/256. Amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. *Decides* that staff regulation 5.3 shall be amended to read:

Regulation 5.3

Eligible staff members shall be granted home leave once in every 24 months. However, the Secretary-General may grant home leave once in every 12 months to eligible staff members in duty stations having the most difficult conditions of life and work under specific conditions, as approved by the General Assembly. A staff member whose home country is either the country of his or her official duty station or the country of his or her normal residence while in United Nations service shall not be eligible for home leave.

4. *Also decides* that annex IV to the Staff Regulations shall be amended to read:

Repatriation grant

In principle, the repatriation grant shall be payable to staff members who have completed at least five years of qualifying service, whom the Organization is obligated to repatriate and who at the time of separation are residing, by virtue of their service with the United Nations, outside their country of nationality. The repatriation grant shall not, however, be

[1] A/70/746.
[2] A/70/789.

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paid to a staff member who is dismissed. Eligible staff members shall be entitled to a repatriation grant only upon relocation outside the country of the duty station. Detailed conditions and definitions relating to eligibility and requisite evidence of relocation shall be determined by the Secretary-General.

Years of qualifying service	*Staff member with a spouse or dependent child at time of separation*	*Staff member with neither a spouse nor dependent child at time of separation*	
		Professional and higher categories	*General Service category*
	Weeks of gross salary, less staff assessment, where applicable		
5	14	8	7
6	16	9	8
7	18	10	9
8	20	11	10
9	22	13	11
10	24	14	12
11	26	15	13
12 or more	28	16	14

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United Nations A/RES/70/257

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 April 2016

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/70/801)]

70/257. Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 31/192 of 22 December 1976, 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 57/284 A and B of 20 December 2002, 58/286 of 8 April 2004, 59/267 of 23 December 2004, 60/258 of 8 May 2006, 61/238 of 22 December 2006, 61/260 of 4 April 2007, 62/226 of 22 December 2007, 62/246 of 3 April 2008, 64/262 of 29 March 2010, 65/270 of 4 April 2011, 66/259 of 9 April 2012, 67/256 of 12 April 2013, 68/266 of 9 April 2014 and 69/275 of 2 April 2015,

Reaffirming the statute of the Unit[1] and the unique role of the Unit as the only external and independent system-wide inspection, evaluation and investigation body,

Having considered the report of the Unit for 2015 and programme of work for 2016[2] and the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Unit for 2015,[3]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2015 and programme of work for 2016;[2]

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Unit for 2015;[3]

3. *Reiterates its request* to the executive heads of the participating organizations to fully comply with the statutory procedures for consideration of the reports of the Unit and, in particular, to submit their comments, including information on what they intend to do regarding the recommendations of the Unit, to distribute reports in time for their consideration by legislative organs and to provide information on the steps to be taken to implement those recommendations accepted by the legislative organs and the executive heads of participating organizations;

[1] Resolution 31/192, annex.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/70/34).

[3] A/70/716.

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4. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the other executive heads of the participating organizations to fully assist the Unit with the timely provision of all information requested by it;

5. *Commends* the Unit on the fiftieth anniversary of its founding;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the oversight functions of the Unit in identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions within the participating organizations and providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations to improve and strengthen the governance of the United Nations as a whole;

7. *Notes* the need to enhance the effectiveness of the Unit and its system-wide oversight capability;

8. *Recognizes* that the effectiveness of the Unit system-wide is a shared responsibility of the Unit, the Member States and the secretariats of the participating organizations;

9. *Also recognizes* the need to continue to enhance the impact of the Unit on the management efficiency and transparency of the participating organizations within the United Nations system;

10. *Welcomes* the coordination of the Unit with the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat, and encourages those bodies to continue to share experiences, knowledge, best practices and lessons learned with other United Nations audit and oversight bodies, as well as with the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, with a view to avoiding overlap or duplication and achieving further synergy, cooperation, effectiveness and efficiency, without prejudice to the respective mandates of the audit and oversight bodies;

11. *Requests* the heads of participating organizations to make full use of the web-based system of the Unit and to provide an in-depth analysis of how the recommendations of the Unit are being implemented;

12. *Invites* the Unit, as appropriate, to develop indicators to measure system-wide efficiency and effectiveness achieved as a result of the implementation of its recommendations and to report thereon in the context of its future reports;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 107 of its resolution 70/247 of 23 December 2015, and reiterates its requests to the Secretary-General to consider options for hosting the website of the Unit in-house and to report on this matter in the context of the forthcoming report on the implementation of the information and communications strategy for the Secretariat;

14. *Reaffirms* article 20 of the statute of the Unit,[1] in which it is stipulated that the Unit shall be invited to be represented at meetings when its budget estimates are being discussed;

15. *Welcomes* the continued reform efforts undertaken by the Unit to better serve the interests of the participating organizations and Member States, and encourages the Unit to continue its efforts in this regard;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Unit to consider optimizing the number of projects in its programme of work through prioritization;

17. *Notes with concern* the long-vacant posts in the Unit, and stresses the importance of expediting all recruitment processes and filling posts in a timely manner;

18. *Reiterates its request* to the Unit to issue its reports in all the official languages of the United Nations, well in advance of meetings of the legislative organs of participating organizations so that the reports can be thoroughly and effectively utilized in their deliberations.

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[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/70/634/Add.1)*]

70/258. Construction of a new facility for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Arusha branch

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 66/240 A of 24 December 2011, 66/240 B of 21 June 2012, 67/244 A of 24 December 2012, 67/244 B of 12 April 2013, 68/257 of 27 December 2013, 68/267 of 9 April 2014, 69/256 of 29 December 2014, 69/276 of 2 April 2015 and 70/243 of 23 December 2015,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

3. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the continued support of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania in facilitating the construction of the new facility;

4. *Notes* the continued efforts made by the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals related to the implementation of the project, including cost-saving measures and cooperation with other judicial institutions;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to include local knowledge and capacity in the implementation of the project;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all measures necessary to mitigate potential risks and to ensure that the construction project is monitored closely and is completed within the approved resources and the revised timeline;

7. *Recalls* paragraphs 21 and 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to pursue the recovery of the direct and indirect

[1] A/70/698.
[2] A/70/772.

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costs arising from errors and delays, where economically feasible to do so, and to report thereon in the context of the next progress report;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, no later than at the first part of its resumed seventy-first session, a progress report on the implementation of the project, outlining, inter alia, the project expenditures and total costs.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 1 April 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.42 and Add.1)*]

70/259. United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 66/2 of 19 September 2011, 66/221 of 22 December 2011, 68/231 and 68/233 of 20 December 2013, 68/300 of 10 July 2014, 68/309 of 10 September 2014, 69/240 of 19 December 2014 and 69/310 of 6 July 2015,

Welcoming the adoption of the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[1] as well as the Framework for Action,[2] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, which was jointly organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

Mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/84 of 24 May 1989 regarding international decades in economic and social fields,

Conscious of the need to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition worldwide, particularly undernourishment, stunting, wasting, underweight and overweight in children under 5 years of age and anaemia in women and children, among other micronutrient deficiencies, as well as reverse the rising trends in overweight and obesity and reduce the burden of diet-related non-communicable diseases in all age groups,

Conscious also of the need to reduce food losses and waste throughout the food chain in order to contribute to food security, nutrition and sustainable development,

Expressing concern that nearly 800 million people remain chronically undernourished and 159 million children under 5 years of age are stunted, approximately 50 million children under 5 years of age are wasted, over 2 billion people suffer from micronutrient deficiencies and a rapidly increasing number of

[1] World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

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people are affected by obesity in all regions, with more than 1.9 billion overweight adults, of whom over 600 million are obese,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging the importance of reaching Sustainable Development Goal 2, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, as well as the interlinked targets of other Goals,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 2016–2025 the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, within existing structures and available resources;

2. *Endorses* the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[1] as well as the Framework for Action,[2] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate;

3. *Calls upon* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to lead the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), in collaboration with the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Children's Fund, and to identify and develop a work programme based on the Rome Declaration and its Framework for Action, along with its means of implementation for 2016–2025, using coordination mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security, in line with its mandate, and in consultation with other international and regional organizations and platforms;

4. *Invites* Governments and other relevant stakeholders, including international and regional organizations, civil society, the private sector and academia, to actively support the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, including through voluntary contributions, as appropriate;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly about the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, on the basis of the biennial reports jointly compiled by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 15 April 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.44 and Add.1)*]

70/260. Improving global road safety

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 57/309 of 22 May 2003, 58/9 of 5 November 2003, 58/289 of 14 April 2004, 60/5 of 26 October 2005, 62/244 of 31 March 2008, 64/255 of 2 March 2010, 66/260 of 19 April 2012 and 68/269 of 10 April 2014 on improving global road safety,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on improving global road safety[1] and the recommendations contained therein,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging the importance of reaching the road safety-related targets, such as

[1] A/70/386.

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target 3.6, which aims to halve, by 2020, the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents, and target 11.2, which aims to provide, by 2030, access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons,

Noting that, at the midpoint of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020, the overwhelming majority of road traffic deaths and injuries are predictable and preventable and that, despite some improvements in many countries, including in developing countries, they remain a major public health and development problem that has broad social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that human suffering, combined with costs to countries of 3 to 5 per cent of their gross domestic product a year, makes reducing road traffic deaths and injuries an urgent development priority, and that investment in road safety has a positive impact on public health and the economy,

Taking into account that road traffic deaths and injuries are also a social equity issue, as the poor and the vulnerable are most frequently also vulnerable road users, namely, pedestrians, cyclists, users of motorized two- and three-wheeled vehicles and passengers of unsafe public transport, who are disproportionately affected and exposed to risks and road crashes, which can lead to a cycle of poverty exacerbated by income loss, and recalling that the aim of road safety policies should be to guarantee protection to all users,

Recognizing that road safety requires addressing broader issues of equitable access to mobility and that the promotion of sustainable modes of transport, in particular safe public transport and safe walking and cycling, is a key element of road safety,

Taking into account the importance of strengthening institutional capacity and continuing international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, cooperation between countries that share roads across borders and cooperation among regional and international organizations, to further support efforts to improve road safety, particularly in developing countries, and providing, as appropriate, support to meet the goals of the Decade of Action and those of the 2030 Agenda,

Emphasizing that, while each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the context of reaching the Sustainable Development Goals, international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources,

Expressing its concern that, despite the stabilization of the global number of road traffic fatalities since 2013, the number of road traffic crashes remains unacceptably high, and crashes represent a leading cause of death and injury around the world, killing more than 1.25 million people and injuring as many as 50 million people a year, with 90 per cent of these casualties occurring in developing countries, and concerned also that road traffic crashes are the leading cause of death around the world for children and young people between 15 and 29 years of age,

Acknowledging the leading role of Oman and the Russian Federation in drawing the attention of the international community to the global road safety crisis,

Commending the Government of the Russian Federation for hosting the first Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety, in Moscow on 19 and 20 November 2009, which culminated in the Moscow Declaration,[2] and the Government of Brazil for hosting the second Global High-level Conference on Road Safety, in Brasilia on 18 and 19 November 2015, which culminated in the Brasilia Declaration, and Oman for its role in preparing the first United Nations Global Road Safety Week, held from 23 to 29 April 2007, during the sixth meeting of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, held in Muscat on 27 and 28 February 2007,

Commending Member States that have adopted comprehensive legislation on key risk factors, including the non-use of seat belts, child restraints and helmets, drinking alcohol and driving, and speeding, and drawing attention to other risk factors such as visibility, medical conditions and medicines which affect safe driving, fatigue and the use of narcotic and psychotropic drugs and psychoactive substances, mobile phones and other electronic and texting devices,

Recognizing the progress made by some Member States in providing universal access to health care in the pre-hospital, hospital and post-hospital and rehabilitation and reintegration phases to road traffic crash victims and their families,

Encouraging Member States to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships to address the safety of vulnerable road users, the delivery of first aid to victims of road accidents or crashes, training and education, notably in developing and least developed countries,

Acknowledging the work of the United Nations system, in particular the leadership of the World Health Organization, in close cooperation with the United Nations regional commissions, in establishing, implementing and monitoring various aspects of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011–2020), and the commitment of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the International Labour Organization, among other entities, to supporting those efforts as well as that of the World Bank and regional development banks to implementing road safety projects and programmes, in particular in developing countries,

Commending the World Health Organization for its leadership role in preventing road traffic injury and for its role in implementing the mandate conferred upon it by the General Assembly to act, in close cooperation with the United Nations regional commissions, as a coordinator on road safety issues within the United Nations system[3] and in preparing and launching the *Global Status Report on Road Safety 2015*, the third in a series of reports to monitor progress over the period of the Decade of Action, as requested in Assembly resolution 62/244, and the 180 Member States that took part in the survey,

Commending also the United Nations regional commissions for their work in increasing road safety activities and advocating increased political commitment to road safety, and in working towards setting regional and national road traffic casualty reduction targets, in particular the work of the Economic Commission for

[2] A/64/540, annex.

[3] See resolution 58/289.

Europe in elaborating global road safety-related legal instruments, including international conventions and agreements, technical standards, resolutions and good practice recommendations, as well as in servicing 58 global and regional legal instruments that provide a commonly accepted legal and technical framework for the development of international road, rail, inland water and combined transport,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration as a consultative mechanism to facilitate international road safety cooperation,

Noting the work of two Economic Commission for Europe groups of experts, namely, on road signs and signals and on improving safety at level crossings, and recognizing the continuous work of the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations to modify vehicle regulations to increase safety performance,

Noting with approval the Economic Commission for Europe project, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic Commission for Africa, under the United Nations Development Account, to strengthen the national road safety management capacity of selected countries,

Taking note of the United Nations regional commissions study entitled "Transport for sustainable development: the case of inland transport", conducted in cooperation with the International Road Transport Union and the International Union of Railways, which gives a fair picture of the road safety situation on five continents, shares best practices and identifies not only the road safety challenges, but also their solutions,

Taking note also of the International Maritime Organization/International Labour Organization/Economic Commission for Europe Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units, which took effect in 2015 and is intended to increase safety in the handling of containers and reduce the number of incidents across transport modes attributed to poor practices in the packing of cargo,

Acknowledging a number of other important international efforts on road safety, including the development by the International Road Transport Union of harmonized and internationally recognized standards for the vocational training of road transport professionals, as well as the development of an updated Road Safety Manual by the World Road Association to offer guidance to officials at various levels on measures that can enhance the safety of road infrastructure,

Welcoming the establishment of the High-level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport and the appointment of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety, with secretariat support from the Economic Commission for Europe, as an efficient tool for mobilizing sustained political commitment to road safety by advocating adherence to and raising awareness about the United Nations legal instruments on road safety, sharing good practices through participation in global and regional conferences and generating funds for road safety,

Recognizing the commitment of States and civil society to road safety by their participation in United Nations Global Road Safety Week, including during the third Week, held from 4 to 10 May 2015, which highlighted the plight of children on the world's roads to generate action to better ensure their safety, including the Child Declaration for Road Safety,

Recognizing also Member States and civil society for their continued commitment to road safety by their observance of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on the third Sunday of November every year,

Recognizing further that providing basic conditions and services to address road safety is primarily a responsibility of Governments, while recognizing nonetheless that there is a shared responsibility to move towards a world free from road traffic fatalities and serious injuries and that addressing road safety demands multi-stakeholder collaboration among the public and private sectors, academia, professional organizations, non-governmental organizations and the media,

1. *Invites* Member States and the international community to intensify both national and international collaboration with a view to meeting the ambitious road safety-related targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[4]

2. *Endorses* the Brasilia Declaration, adopted at the second Global High-level Conference on Road Safety, held in Brasilia on 18 and 19 November 2015;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), taking into account that the majority of road deaths and injuries take place in urban areas, to give appropriate consideration to road safety and access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable public transport and non-motorized modes of transport, paying special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons in the future New Urban Agenda;

4. *Invites* the Ninth Global Conference on Health Promotion, to be held in Shanghai, China, in November 2016, which aims to mobilize Governments and civil society to act on the social determinants of health as well as to exchange national intersectoral action experiences, to give consideration to the role of the health sector in the promotion of road safety and safe mobility;

5. *Invites* Member States that have not yet done so to develop and implement national road safety plans and to consider adopting comprehensive legislation, in line with the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020, with a view to meeting the target of increasing the percentage of countries with comprehensive legislation on key risk factors, including the non-use of seat belts, child restraints and helmets, drinking alcohol and driving, and speeding, from 15 per cent to at least 50 per cent by 2020, as agreed in resolution 64/255, and to consider implementing appropriate, effective and evidence-based legislation on other risk factors related to distracted or impaired driving;

6. *Reaffirms* the role and importance of the United Nations legal instruments on road safety, such as the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic,[5] the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic,[6] the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals,[7] the 1958 and 1998 agreements on technical vehicle regulations, the 1997 agreement on periodic technical inspection of vehicles and the 1957 agreement on transport of dangerous goods, in facilitating road safety at the global, regional and national levels, and commends Member States that have acceded to these international legal instruments on road safety;

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[4] Resolution 70/1.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 125, No. 1671.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1042, No. 15705.

[7] Ibid., vol. 1091, No. 16743.

7. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming contracting parties to the United Nations legal instruments on road safety and, beyond accession, applying, implementing and promoting their provisions or safety regulations;

8. *Encourages* Member States to make efforts to ensure the safety and protection of all road users through safer road infrastructure, especially on the highest-risk roads with high rates of crashes involving both motorized and non-motorized modes of transport, through a combination of proper planning and safety assessment, design, building and maintenance of roads, taking into consideration the geography of the country;

9. *Invites* Member States that have not already done so to consider adopting policies and measures to implement United Nations vehicle safety regulations or equivalent national standards to ensure that all new motor vehicles meet applicable minimum regulations for the protection of occupants and other road users, with seat belts, airbags and active safety systems fitted as standard equipment;

10. *Invites* Member States that have not yet done so to address road safety holistically, starting with the implementation or continuation of a road safety management system, including, as appropriate, interdepartmental cooperation and the development of national road safety plans in line with the Global Plan for the Decade of Action;

11. *Encourages* Member States to promote environmentally sound, safe, accessible and affordable modes of quality transport, particularly public and non-motorized transport, as well as safe intermodal integration, as a means of improving road safety, social equity, public health and urban planning, including the resilience of cities and urban-rural linkages, and in this regard to take into account road safety and mobility as part of the effort to achieve sustainable development;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt, implement and enforce policies and measures to actively protect and promote pedestrian safety and cycling mobility, with a view to also improving road safety and broader health outcomes, particularly the prevention of injuries and non-communicable diseases;

13. *Invites* Member States to develop and implement appropriate social marketing campaigns to raise awareness and commemorate the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on the third Sunday of November every year;

14. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen pre-hospital care, including emergency health services and the immediate post-crash response, hospital and ambulatory guidelines for trauma care, and rehabilitation services, through the implementation of appropriate legislation, capacity-building and improvement of timely access to integral health care, and requests the World Health Organization to support Member States in these endeavours;

15. *Urges* Member States to promote, adapt and implement road safety policies for the protection of vulnerable persons among road users, in particular children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, in line with relevant United Nations legal instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[8] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[9]

[8] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[9] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

16. *Encourages* Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities and other users with reduced mobility have access, on an equal basis, to the physical environment of roads and surrounding areas and to transportation, both in urban and in rural areas, and invites Member States to accede to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

17. *Invites* Member States to fully integrate a gender perspective into all policymaking and policy implementation related to mobility and road safety, especially regarding roads and surrounding areas and public transport;

18. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement comprehensive legislation and policies on motorcycles, including on training, driver licensing, vehicle registration, working conditions and the use by motorcyclists of helmets and personal protection equipment, within the existing international standards, given the disproportionally high and increasing numbers of motorcycle deaths and injuries globally, particularly in developing countries;

19. *Invites* Member States to develop public policies to decrease work-related road traffic crashes, with the participation of employers and workers, in order to enforce international standards on safety and health at work, road safety and adequate road and vehicle conditions, giving particular attention to the issue of professional drivers' working conditions;

20. *Also invites* Member States to provide early rehabilitation and social reintegration, including in the world of work, to persons with injuries and disabilities caused by road traffic crashes and comprehensive support to victims of road traffic crashes and their families;

21. *Invites* Member States to continue to implement professional driver qualification frameworks, established on the basis of internationally recognized standards, including training, certification and licensing, restricted hours of driving and working conditions that focus on addressing the main causes of accidents or crashes involving heavy commercial vehicles, recognizing that distraction is a significant cause of accidents or crashes;

22. *Also invites* Member States to support, as appropriate, the activities of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety;

23. *Requests* the World Health Organization and the United Nations regional commissions, as well as other relevant United Nations agencies, to continue the activities aimed at supporting the implementation of the objectives and goals of the Decade of Action and the road safety-related targets in the 2030 Agenda, while ensuring system-wide coherence;

24. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take a leading role in implementing the activities of the Decade of Action and the road safety-related targets in the 2030 Agenda, while fostering multisectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration that includes the efforts of academia, the private sector, professional associations, civil society, including national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, non-governmental organizations, victims' organizations, youth organizations and the media;

25. *Invites* the World Health Organization to continue to monitor, through its global status reports, progress towards the achievement of the goals of the Decade of Action;

26. *Requests* the World Health Organization, in collaboration with other United Nations agencies and the United Nations regional commissions, to continue to facilitate, through the existing mechanisms, including the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, a transparent, sustainable and participatory process with all stakeholders, to assist interested countries in developing voluntary global performance targets on key risk factors and service delivery mechanisms to reduce road traffic fatalities and injuries in the context of the process leading to the definition and use of indicators for the road safety-related targets in the 2030 Agenda and the Global Plan for the Decade of Action;

27. *Requests* the World Health Organization and the United Nations regional commissions to facilitate the organization of activities during 2017 for the fourth United Nations Global Road Safety Week;

28. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, international organizations, development banks and funding agencies, foundations, professional associations and private sector companies to scale up funding, for example, through existing funds such as the World Bank Global Road Safety Facility, and to explore new and innovative funding modalities to support the implementation of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action and the road safety-related targets in the 2030 Agenda, particularly in developing countries;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the possibility of establishing, from voluntary contributions, a road safety trust fund to support the implementation of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action and the road safety-related Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate, and to report thereon to Member States;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled "Improving global road safety", requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at that session on the progress made in the attainment of the objectives of the Decade of Action, and invites Member States to consider during that session the periodicity of future reporting, taking into account the work on the revitalization of the Assembly.

91st plenary meeting
15 April 2016

General Assembly

Distr.: General
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Seventieth session
Agenda item 23 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 15 April 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.45)*]

70/261. Modalities for the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/231 of 19 December 2014 and 70/216 of 22 December 2015 on the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Reaffirming its resolutions 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

1. *Recommends* the provisional agenda of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, as set out in document A/CONF.228/1, for adoption at the Midterm Review;

2. *Recalls* the modalities approved in its resolutions 69/231 and 70/216, and decides that the present resolution amends and complements these modalities and that further decisions regarding arrangements for the Midterm Review may be taken by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States;

3. *Requests* the co-facilitators to present a draft outcome document in the form of a political declaration, by the first half of March 2016 and in advance of the preparatory meeting of experts, prepared on the basis of inputs from the national and regional preparatory meetings, the report of the Secretary-General and other inputs, including those from Member States;

4. *Decides* that the Midterm Review shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President and an ex officio Vice-President from the host country, and nine Vice-Presidents,[1] one of whom shall be designated as Rapporteur;

[1] Two from each of the following groups: African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States and Latin American and Caribbean States; and one from Western European and other States.

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5. *Also decides* that the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States shall serve as the Secretary-General of the Midterm Review, and shall be responsible for making all the necessary arrangements for carrying out the work of the Midterm Review;

6. *Further decides* that the opening plenary meeting of the Midterm Review will include statements by the President of the Midterm Review, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the former and current Chair of the Group of Least Developed Countries, the President of the European Commission, the Chair of the African Union, the President of the World Bank Group and one representative each from civil society and the private sector;

7. *Decides* that the Midterm Review four thematic round-table meetings, to be held in parallel with the plenary meetings, will be scheduled as follows:

27 May 2016, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

28 May 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

29 May 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

8. *Also decides* that the thematic meetings will focus on identifying concrete suggestions to further strengthen the global partnership for development for least developed countries in all priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020[2] in order to ensure the timely, effective and full implementation of the Programme of Action during the remainder of the decade, while taking into account synergy and coherence of the Programme of Action with global processes, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[3] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[4] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[5] and the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[6] and that the four round tables will be held on the following themes:

Round table 1: Productive capacity, agriculture, food security and rural development

Round table 2: Trade and commodities; and economic diversification and graduation

Round table 3: Human and social development; and good governance at all levels

Round table 4: Multiple crises and other emerging challenges; and mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building

9. *Further decides* that the organizational arrangements of the round tables will be as follows:

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[2] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[3] Resolution 70/1.

[4] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[5] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[6] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

(*a*) Each round table will be co-chaired by two Chairs, one from the least developed countries and one from the development partners, to be appointed by the President of the Midterm Review, from among representatives at the level of Head of State or Government and/or at the ministerial level;

(*b*) The Secretary-General of the Midterm Review, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly, will select up to four panellists for each of the round tables, and the panel discussion will be followed by an interactive debate among States and other relevant representatives and stakeholders;

(*c*) The round tables will be interactive and open to all conference participants. There will be no prepared list of speakers. At the discretion of the Chair or Chairs, priority in the order of speakers will be given to those speaking at the level of Head of State or Government or at the ministerial level. The round tables will aim to achieve a balance among speakers from all stakeholders. In order to provide for maximum participation, interventions should not exceed three minutes. Representatives are invited to indicate to the Secretariat by e-mail if they will be represented in a round table at the level of Head of State or Government or at the ministerial level;

10. *Decides* that summaries of the round-table meetings will be presented orally by the Co-Chairs at the closing plenary meeting;

11. *Reiterates* the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, including parliamentarians, civil society and the private sector, in the Midterm Review and its preparatory process, and decides that:

(*a*) Non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental organizations accredited to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries shall register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the Midterm Review;

(*b*) The President of the General Assembly shall also draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the Midterm Review as observers, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, and will submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and bring the list to the attention of the Assembly.[7]

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[7] The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or States members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.